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men of genius and parts have been observed among them . . . 5. Any Basalts & pumice in the mountains . . . . any coals . . . . above or below banks of shells" . . . . [The whole letter is curiously suggestive of the state and animus of French science in 1774.]

Franklin sent also a memoir of M. Daubenton (sent to him through M. Le Roy) at Buffon's request (with colored plates), "On the method of preserving birds," &c., with a request for "some natural productions of Pennsylvania" for the King's cabinet. [The note is translated in the minutes, dated July 20, 1773.] Smith, Lukens, Rittenhouse and Owen Biddle were appointed to answer Condorcet's questions as to Meteorology; Dr. Thos. Bond, Wells, Simitiere and Rush, those of Natural History.

Dr. Thos. Bond, Jun., Mr. Fooks and Mr. Delany were made a Com. "to look into the affairs of the Society."

1775. *January* 6. (No. list.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

*President*—Ben. Franklin.
*V. Ps.*—Josh. Galloway, Sam. Rhoads, Dr. T. Bond.
*Secs.*—Dr. W. Smith, Rt. S. Jones, Dr. B. Rush, Rd. Wells.
*Curators*—Rittenhouse, T. Bond, Jr., Duffield.
*Treas.*—Thos. Coombe.

1775. *Jan.* 20. (11 present.)

Drawing of Ilicium floridianum, by Bernard Romaine presented.

"A sufficient number of members to ballot for Candidates for a fellowship in the Society not being present the Society adjourned to Jan'y 28th."

1775. *Jan.* 28. (19 present; Bond presiding; Smith, Clifford, Rittenhouse, T. Coombe, Revd T. Coombe, Owen

Biddle, Clement Biddle, Roberts, Morris, Wells, Holingsworth [*sic*], Bringhurst, Paschall, Bartram, Lukens, Simitere, Park, Rush.)

*Election of — New Members.*—Condorcet, Daubenton, Dubourg, Le Roux, Macquair,* Raynal,* Lavoisier, Rosier,* all of Paris; Dr. Adams of Barbadoes; Capt. Holland and Revd Dr. T. Gibbons of London; Dr Fortunatus de Warris and Dr. Ben. Mosely of Jamaica.

*David Rittenhouse* appointed *Librarian.*

Meyer's new method of mapping Russia presented by Peter Miller.

Mrs. Hunt's account, 40 sh. for services in the Hall of the Society, ordered paid.

[On the opposite page is pasted a paper on which is written:—

"gentlemen as I have had the Care of the hall allmost tow year I shall esteem it as a faver if yool give me an order to be pade I have had a long fit of illness and mony will be very exseptabel to your friend

friday night Jany 27 1775 ISBELLA HUNT"]

[1775.] *Feb'y* [ ] "*in the College.*"

Rittenhouse delivered his "Oration on Astronomy, to a crowded audience, consisting of his Honor the Governor of the Province, the Assembly, and a great number of gentlemen of the first distinction, besides the members of the Society."

[1775.] *May* 30. (8 present.)

Dr. Smith agreed to bring in a copy of a letter of admission of members chosen into the Society; also, letters of thanks to Buffon and Condorcet for presents.

Mr. Simitière agreed to answer Condorcet's 1st and 5th set

* The orthography of these names differs from that of the 1880 catalogue of members which followed the spelling of the earlier ones. On the next page but one is pasted a scrap of paper, upon which appears in an old handwriting, the same list of names, with that of *Reynal* spelled *Renould.*

of questions; Rittenhouse the 2d and 3d; and Ludlam's letter to the Society [not mentioned in the minutes before]; Dr. Bond the 4th; Dr. Rush to write to the Abbé Raynall.

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"CONTINUATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, FOR PROMOTING USEFUL KNOWLEDGE."

"N. B.—The former part of the Minutes from the Institution of the Society; commencing Jan'y 2d, 1769; and ending Dec. 30th, 1774; are contained in a Marble covered Book, containing 176 pages.

"Since the Beginning of the Year 1775, the Meetings of the Society were much interrupted, and for a great Part of the Time wholly discontinued; so that the following are all the Minutes that have been preserved; viz:"

1775. *Jan'y* 6. [Minutes as above, here repeated.]

1775. *March* 3. (13 present; T. Coombe, Senr. and Mr. Du Simitière among them.)

"Agreed with Mr. Bradford to proceed immediately to print the Second volume of the *Transactions* on the following terms:

"At least 500 copies to be printed;

"He is to make an Estimate of the work when finished at the same rate as if he had printed it at the Expence of the Society, and on averaging the whole according to the number of Copies, to deliver to the Members their Copies at the average price, and also a present of 25 Copies to be sent to foreign societies and members of Distinction, and to sell the remainder at a moderate shop profit, to refund the residue of the costs of printing."

Dr. Smith brought in a proposed petition to the Assembly for erecting a *Public Observatory*, which was agreed to. [Blank space evidently intended for engrossing the petition.]

Dr. Smith was desired to prepare a similar petition to the Governor.

1775. *March* 19. (4 present: Bond, Alexander, Rhoads, Gilpin.)

Arthur Donaldson's machine (in construction) for cleansing the docks was described by Mr. Rhoads. Bond, Rhoads, Hollinsworth, Gilpin and Fisher appointed to examine and report.

Committee to confer with paper manufacturers, reported (through Mr. Bell) "a plan for encouraging the undertaking," which was ordered to be published in the newspapers.

R. Howell's letter (from Virginia) about a moss used in dyeing purple, and a new silk reel, was communicated by R. S. Jones, and referred to Committee on Husbandry and American Improvements. Enclosed specimens referred to Mr. Alexander for examination.

Revd Jas. Manning, "Pre'g U. C.," returned thanks for a Vol. Trans. American Philosophical Society, "presented to the Institution."

Plain bookcase for the use of the Society ordered through Mr. Gilpin.

Specimens of Marle [*sic*] from near Wilmington and Alum from the Monongahela, presented by Mr. Gilpin.

1775. *May* 30. [Minutes already given repeated here.]

1775. *September* 15. (16 present: Franklin presided; Ed. Physic, Fisher and B. Winesop among them.)

Gilpin's letter about the Annual passage of Herrings, "with a map explanatory of their Voyage." Referred to Committee on Natural History.

Franklin delivered the following books presented by their authors:—The Abbé Decquemare's Essay on Sea Anemones, with a letter to the American Philosophical Society; Prin-

gle on the Torpedo; Dennis' Astronomy; Rozier's Obs. sur le physic [*sic*] naturale, Vols. III, IV (2 copies);—thanks returned.

Sir J. Pringle's letter to Franklin "containing an abstract of Capt. Cooke's [*sic*] last Voyage, not yet published in England."

Dr. Morgan communicated a paper entitled "The whole process of the Silk Worm from the Egg to the Cocoon, by Messrs. Hall and Skinner.

Phin. Pemberton's Meteorological Register for January and February, 1775, and Thos. Aldwin's MS. Journal of Winds on the Island of Anticosta from September, 1766 to June, 1767, communicated by Mr. Bond.

"An order was drawn on the Treasurer in favor of Dr. Bond, 18 " 3 postage a letter from L'abbe Decquemare."

1775. *Dec.* 15. (9 present.)

Prof. Meyer (of Heidelberg)'s letter, with two maps, and two treatises, presented:—1. Observatio occultationis Saturni, &c.; 2. Directio meridiani palatini per speculum, &c. Thanks ordered "to that Gentleman for his ingenious performances and request" for "the continuation of his valuable correspondence" . . . "the Society will esteem themselves happy in communicating any thing in their power to assist him in the Prosecution of his Philosophical Researches."

Rittenhouse's Oration: 150 copies ordered, one to each Member of Congress and Assembly.

1776. *Jan'y* 5.

*Election of Officers.*

*President*—"Doctor Franklin."

*V. Ps.*—Dr. Bond, Senr., Samuel Rhoads, Esq., Dr. Smith.

*Secs.*—R. Strettel Jones, Dr. B. Rush, Wells, Bond.

*Curators*—Rittenhouse, Duffield, Simitiere.

*Treas.*—Thomas Coombe, Esq.

[Many blank pages follow.]